

flowered in cultivation at Jardín Botánico Lankester, 3 June 2001, *M.A. Blanco 1324* (holotype, USJ!; isotype, SEL!).

Species *Myoxantho aspasicensi* (Rchb.f.) Luer similis, sed planta floribusque omnine minoribus, ovario pubescente, sepalis purpureo vittatis, interne laevis, synsepalo lanceolato, apice petalorum dorsaliter tuberculato, labello ligulato apice laevi differt.

*Plant* epiphytic, caespitose, up to 17 cm tall, roots coarse. *Ramicauls* stout, erect, 4-7 cm long, enclosed by 3-4 loose, tubular sheaths sometimes fragmented. *Leaf* erect, thickly coriaceous, narrowly lanceolate-elliptic, minutely emarginate, 7-10 cm long, 1.3-1.5 cm wide, cuneate below into a conduplicate, sessile base. *Inflorescence* a fascicle of single, successive flowers, at the apex of ramicaul, the peduncle sparsely pubescent, 8-13 mm long, subtended by a papyraceous spathe 1.4-1.6 cm long; pedicels 2-3 mm long; ovary less than 1 mm long, densely pubescent. *Flowers* small, whitish, longitudinally striped with purple, fleshy, densely short-pubescent externally, glabrous within. *Dorsal sepal* linear-oblongate, obtuse, 10-12 mm long, 3 mm wide, 5-veined. *Lateral sepals* connate into a lanceolate, shortly emarginate, concave synsepal, 10-13 mm long, 4-5 mm wide, each half 4-veined. *Petals* fleshy, linear-oblong, obtuse, minutely apiculate, adaxially provided with a tuft of short papillae near the apex, 4 mm long, 1 mm wide, 3-veined. *Lip* 3-lobed, ligulate, subacute, 4 mm long, 2.5 mm wide between lateral lobes; the apical lobe smooth, slightly undulate along the margins; the lateral lobes erect, narrowly uncinuate, antrorse; the disc with an erect, narrow, low, channeled callus above the base, extending in front into a low keel just to near the lip apex, laterally provided with a pair of low lamellae extending to the apex, hinged on the end. *Column* arcuate, semiterete, 1.6 mm long, provided with narrow wings above the middle, the foot less than 1 mm long. *Anther cap* globose, with long hairs on the upper margin, 2-celled. *Pollinia* 2, obovoid, flattened, on a short caudicle.

*Myoxanthus vittatus* Pupulin & M.A. Blanco, *sp. nov.*

FIG. 1

TYPE: COSTA RICA. San José: Pérez Zeledón, El Brujo, near Río División, 450 m, 30 Jan. 2000,

ETYMOLOGY: from the Latin *vittatus*, "longitudinally striped", in reference to the stripes on sepals and petals.

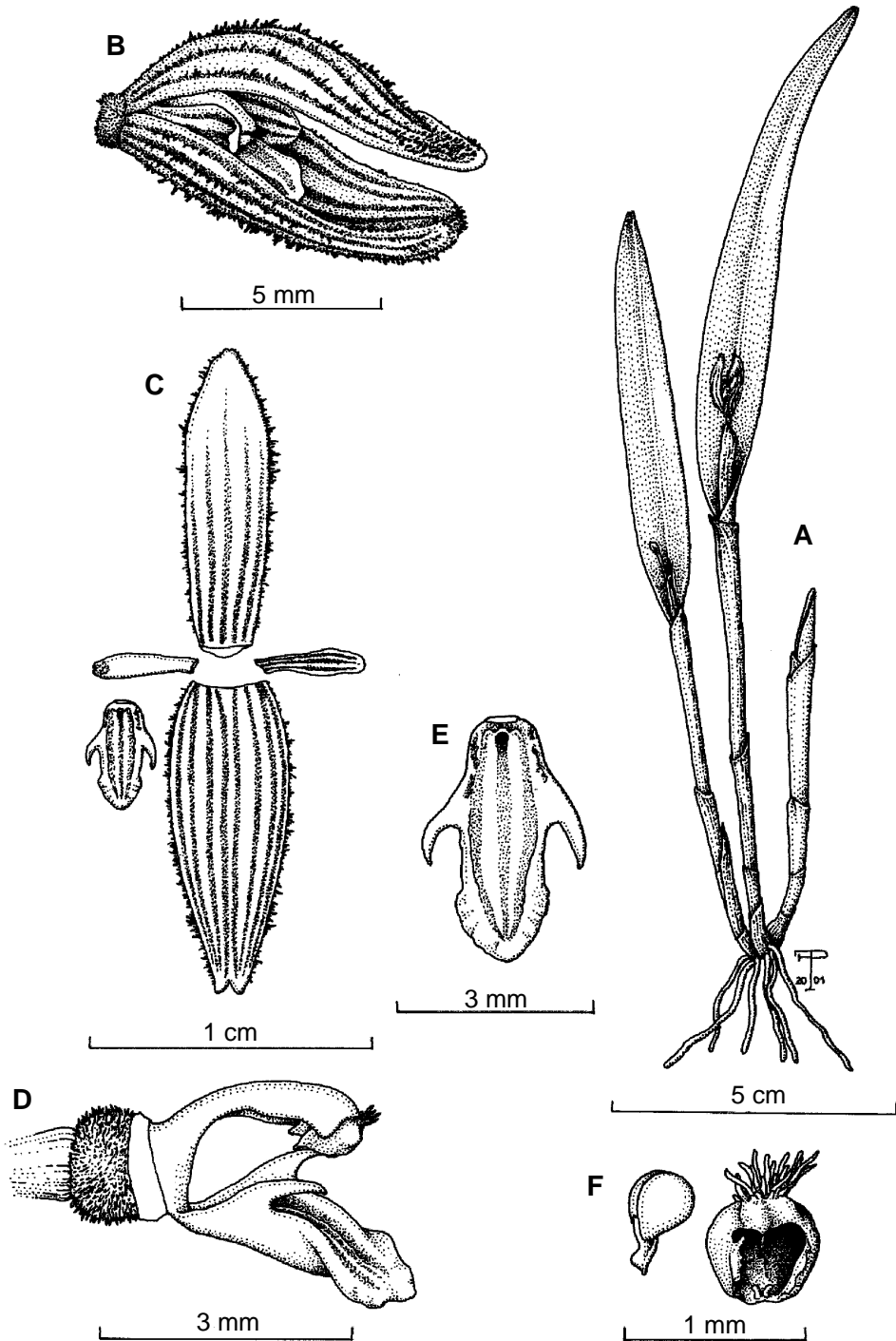


Figure 1. *Myoxanthus vittatus* Pupulin & M.A. Blanco. A - Habit. B - Flower. C - Dissected flower ( petal to the left in abaxial view). D - Column and lip, lateral view. E - Lip, spread. F - Pollinarium and anther cap. ILLUSTRATION VOUCHER: M.A. Blanco 1324 (USJ). Drawn from the holotype.

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Known only from two specimens from the same area in central Pacific Costa Rica, epiphytic in tropical wet forest, pre-montane belt transition, at 450 m elevation.

PHENOLOGY: Flowering occurs from March to June.

PARATYPE: COSTA RICA. San José: Pérez Zeledón, Viento Fresco del Brujo, 450 m, epiphytic on cultivated trees in the village, 21 Jan. 2001, flowered in cultivation at Gaia Botanical Garden, 13 June 2001, *F. Pupulin, D. Castelfranco & L. Elizondo 2878* (USJ, Spirit Coll!).

*Myoxanthus vittatus* is closely related to *M. aspicensis*, *Pleurothallis tomentosa*, *M. sempergemmatus* and *M. uncinatus*, but it is distinguished by the small size, the densely pubescent ovary, the whitish flower striped with purple, the sepals adaxially smooth, and the ligulate, obtuse lip.